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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Prime Minister Blair of the United Kingdom (u)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Prime Minister Blair

Notetakers: Michael Manning, Rob Williams, Roger Merletti, James Smith, Dick Norland

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: January 11, 2000, 4:22 to 4:45 p.m. EST  
Air Force One

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE  
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,  
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2013-090, document no. 79  
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: October 14, 2015

The President: Hello? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Hi, Bill. (U)

The President: Hey, Tony. How are you? Happy New Year. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Same to you. I'm fine. (U)

The President: You getting ready for fatherhood? (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Well, I'm psyched up. How are you doing?  
(U)

The President: I'm doing great. We're moving into our new home and staying busy. I've just been out to the Grand Canyon, protecting another million acres of land, and Al's doing better. So I'm feeling pretty good about things right now. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: He seems to be picking up. That's great.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

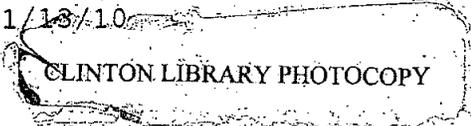
The President: Yes, I'm going to see him tomorrow. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: -- a difficult situation -- (U)

The President: Hello, Tony? I can't hear a word you're saying.  
(U)

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Classified by: Robert Bradtke  
Reason: 1.5(d)  
Declassify on: 01/13/10



Prime Minister Blair: Is this any better? (U)

The President: I can hear you fine, now. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Alright. Good.

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: For one thing, he will. We've worked very hard on this, and I want them to give de Chastelain something credible to work with. I don't think they have rejected it out of hand,

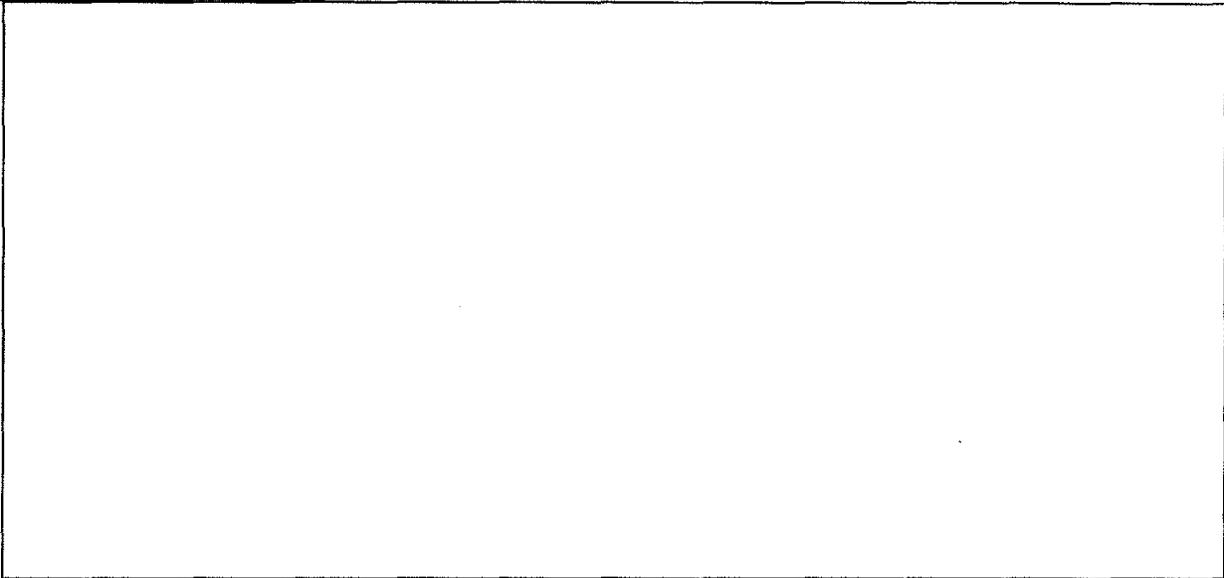
E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

It's very helpful that de Chastelain and Mandelson have minimized the sense of a "deadline," certainly publicly, because I think we need to frame the issue for January not as meeting Trimble's deadline, but as the need for concrete steps for de Chastelain to say the IRA is on the way to meeting the timetable in the Good Friday agreement. I know that Adams is trying to keep everybody together, but one of the possibilities might be if they could be seen as responding to you, rather than a unionist deadline. If something could be done on the Patten report or something -- I want to make the argument he's doing this in response to that, in addition to the Good Friday Accord. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes.

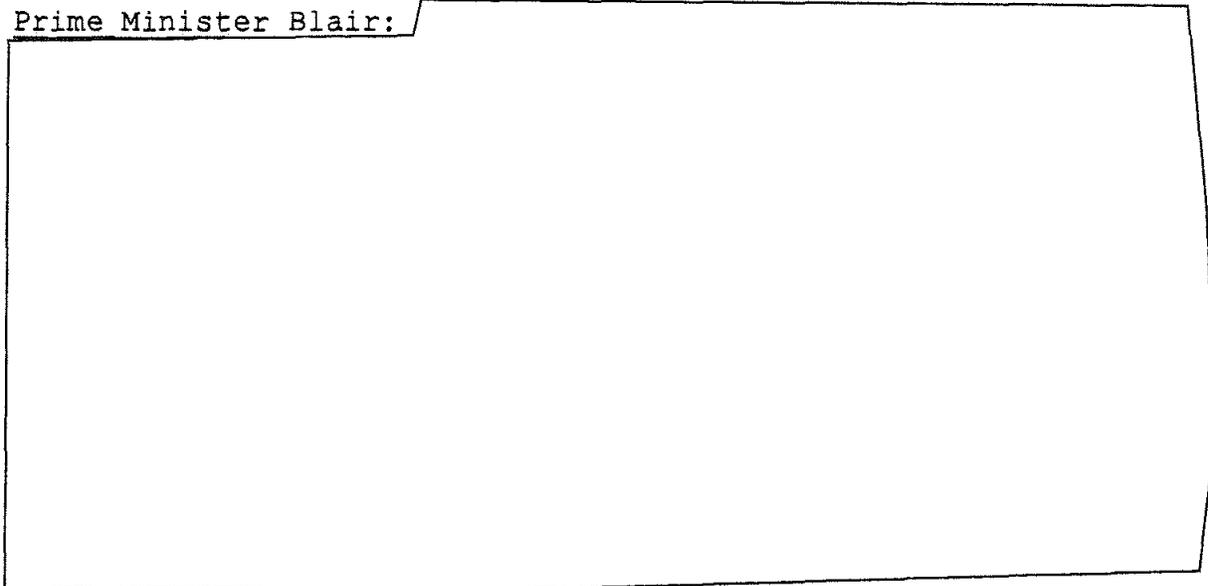
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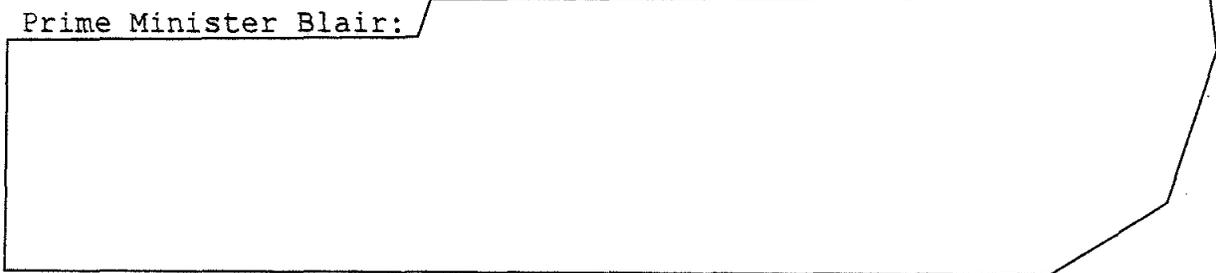
The President: What is their reasoning? What reason are they giving? (C)

Prime Minister Blair:



The President: Yes. (U)

Prime Minister Blair:



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[REDACTED]

The President: I agree with that. Let me work it and call you when I finish with him. (Ø)

Prime Minister Blair: Sorry to call and land this on you. (Ø)

The President: No, no. It's a big deal. I got wind of what they're saying and I'm livid. (Ø)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Yes, I got it. I will call you after I talk to him. How did your meeting with the Iranian Foreign Minister go? (Ø)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

The President: Hello? I lost you again. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Yeah, I agree with that. We have a tough week here. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(b)(d)

The President: Yes. Well, I think we have to keep reaching out toward them and just do our best. But I'm glad you saw him. Let me say very briefly, we had a good week here with the Israelis and the Syrians. There's a lot of tough work to go but when they come back, I think you will see a break one way or another. I just hope and pray it works. I think we have some chance to achieve it, but we are not there by a long shot. ~~(S)~~

Prime Minister Blair: Best of luck on it. It's a great effort you're putting into it. ~~(S)~~

The President: I think we'll make it. [REDACTED]

E.O. 13526, section 1.4(d)

Prime Minister Blair: Yes, and Bill, I think we will see each other in Davos. You're making a speech? (U)

The President: Yes. So, I will see you there, but I will call you as soon as I know something on this. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: That's great. (U)

The President: Okay, Tony. Goodbye. (U)

Prime Minister Blair: Goodbye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --